

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~[[The]]~~ component mounting method according to claim 1, wherein for controlling a component mounting apparatus, comprising:

picking up a component;

positioning the component on a circuit substrate; and

mounting the component onto the circuit substrate,

wherein a fall of the temperature of the component mounting apparatus is prevented by performing an idling operation automatically during a pause of component mounting operation, such as to reduce degradation of a component mounting accuracy due to temperature changes.

3. (Original) The component mounting method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of performing an idling operation automatically during waiting for a next circuit substrate.

4. (Original) The component mounting method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

determining if the temperature change of each of units of the apparatus or a suspending period is out of an allowable limit by a controller during a pause of component mounting operation; and

performing the idling operation when the temperature change or the suspending period is out of the allowable limit.

5. (Original) The component mounting method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

detecting the temperature of each of units of the apparatus by a sensor provided at each of the units; and

starting the idling operation automatically based on the detected temperature.

6. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] component mounting method according to claim 1, wherein for controlling a component mounting apparatus, comprising:

picking up a component;

positioning the component on a circuit substrate; and

mounting the component onto the circuit substrate,

wherein a fall of the temperature of the component mounting apparatus is prevented by performing an idling operation when a switch of an operating section of the apparatus is turned on, such as to reduce degradation of a component mounting accuracy due to temperature changes.

7. (Original) The component mounting method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

measuring a duration of the idling operation or the temperature of each of units of the apparatus after the idling operation; and

performing the idling operation based on the results of the measurements.

8-17. (Canceled)